

Cond
BTC1

an electrically conductive clip disposed in the cavity and held fixed in the housing by the walls, the clip having at least first and second retaining fingers each of which engages an individual conductor to hold the conductor fixed in the housing; and

a conductive extension in electrical engagement with the clip and extending through a housing wall to the exterior of the housing.

Amend claim 7 to read as follows:

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7. (Amended) A method of connecting two or more wires having conductors to a common terminus, comprising the steps of providing a push-in wire connector having a conductive clip inside an insulative housing, providing a conductive extension electrically shorted to the clip and extending to the exterior of the housing, pushing the stripped ends of the conductors of the first and second wires into the housing and into engagement with the clip, and attaching the extension to said terminus.

[Amend claim 8 to read as follows:]

8. (Amended) A method of connecting two or more wires having conductors to a common terminus, comprising the steps of providing an insulation displacement connector having a conductive clip inside an insulative housing, providing a conductive extension electrically shorted to the clip and extending to the exterior of the housing, placing first and second wires adjacent the clip, closing the housing to force the wires' conductors into engagement with the clip, and attaching the extension to said terminus.

REMARKS

The independent claims have been amended to clarify that the extension is electrically shorted to the clip. Thus, amended claims 1, 7 and 8 call for a conductive extension that is "in shorting electrical engagement with the clip" (claim 1) or "electrically shorted to the